

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

"Strive, Believe, Achieve"

Po Box 285, Warracknabeal 3393

Telephone: (03) 53981 433 Facsimile: (03) 53982 430

Website: www.warracksc.vic.edu.au

Email: warracknabeal.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

Our school Values

Honesty ~ Excellence ~ Respect ~ Resilience ~ Perseverance

Our Moral Purpose - Students will be able to choose a life that has meaning.

Warracknabeal Secondary College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

*Term 2 Week 4
11th May,
2017*

It has been a busy week for Year 7 and 9 students as they completed five NAPLAN tests over the last three days. Whilst formal exams and tests can be stressful, it is the primary method education institutions use to assess the learning of students and therefore an important skill to have. Whether future tests are for licences, certificates and/or degrees, performing under pressure is a skill worth investing in. The results of the NAPLAN tests evaluate the effectiveness of our teaching and learning program and are not a judgment on individual students. It is important to share this message with any student who is anxious about the results.

At the last School Council meeting, the 2016 Annual Report was ratified. We learned from our 2016 NAPLAN results that students are gaining skills between the Year 7 and Year 9 test above the state benchmarks. This means that regardless of where students begin, students are able to work with their teachers to grow and improve on where they started. We shifted our language this year to focus on all students as individuals needing to grow their knowledge and skills beyond their starting point. We are continuing to refine our reporting processes to reflect this focus on growth.

The Debutante Ball last Friday was a great way to finish off the week. It is a fantastic evening to see students take pride in learning skills well outside of their comfort zone. The messages from the guests of honour Jayne and Dale Shannon were testament to the close relationships that students form with their teachers. The mentoring and advice teachers offer to students beyond the academic focus of the classroom is an important part of education to help shape students values, attitudes and future pathways. It is one of the special parts of being part of a rural community school.

Next week will be a busy week with two Community Forums organised. On Monday, ***'It's time we talked: Pornography, young people and sexuality today'*** forum to inform and empower the community to address the impact of modern pornography will begin at 7pm in the Community Centre. On Thursday, the Primary School, Special Developmental School and WSC will host an evening to update the community on the ***Education Precinct***. Our architect, Robert, will attend also. This will occur on Thursday the 18th at the Primary School. Come at 5pm to have a look over the designs and the presentation will begin at 5.30pm with plenty of time for questions.

The week beginning the 22nd of May will be *Education Week*. We will be inviting parents and the broader community into the school to see what happens at WSC. If you would like a tour at a specific time, please contact the office on 5398 1433. We will also have a number of specific events to publicise next week. Look forward to seeing you then.

Michael Briggs-Miller

Principal

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Heath Schulz

Debutant Ball

Congratulations to all of the Debs and their partners for their efforts last Friday night! I was so proud to see that the hard work and perseverance you have put in at training paid off in the end. Another special thank-you to all staff, students and family members who assisted to make this evening the success that it was.



Education Week.

Education Week will be celebrated from the 22nd to the 26th of May across all Victorian schools. Our school will also be celebrating this with classes opening their doors to the public. Planning is still being finalised, but currently classes that will open their doors include Drama, Food Technology, English, Psychology and PE. Specific details will follow next week. Education week will showcase the amazing work students are doing; it would be great to see you there.

Photo day

School photo's will be taken on Tuesday the 23rd of May. Students were given their photo forms this week. Orders can be made by filling out the appropriate information on the envelope and returning it to the photographer on the day.

Top arts excursion

Approximately 15-20 VCE Studio Art and VCD students will attend the Top Arts exhibition on Friday in Melbourne. This is a fantastic opportunity to view the best students products and folios from 2016. Thanks to Ms Thompson and Mrs Wardle for providing this opportunity to our students.

Uniform

A reminder with the cooler weather arriving, students should dress appropriately. Students are reminded to wear their blue polar fleece jackets or green woolen jumpers. If anyone needs further assistance in providing these items, please contact your child's coordinator.

Attendance.

Most students received absences letters last week asking to clarify any unexplained absence. This is to ensure that we have accurate records of all student absences and we can implement strategies to address any ongoing absences. Can parents and guardians please check with their child if they received a letter and return it to school ASAP. Coordinators will be phoning home in the coming weeks to follow up absences and arrange possible meetings where required.

Heath Schulz

Acting Assistant Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – WHITNEY MUNROE

This week we have successfully completed our NAPLAN testing. Thank you to all the students for putting in their best effort and showing respect during the exams. The data from NAPLAN provides our school and teachers with valuable feedback about student learning in literacy and numeracy. Our teachers are working hard to address gaps in student knowledge and to ensure that our students have a solid foundation for moving forward into their future pathways.

With our Year 9 Learning Pathways Class, we are getting out into the community to talk with business owners and to learn about potential future careers in the Warracknabeal community. Last week, we visited Wilkens and students learned about business operations, income, and potential work placement opportunities. Over the next few weeks, we will be heading to other local businesses – if you have an idea of a business we could visit, please contact me at the school.

Over the past few weeks, we have been working diligently with staff and students to build a positive learning culture so everyone at Warracknabeal Secondary feels safe and welcome. We are having productive conversations with a variety of students about the school culture and implementing changes to move forward in a positive direction. Our staff are dedicated to working with students to address issues and ensure that everyone is feeling welcome at school. This ties in directly with our school values of Honesty and Respect. Please continue these conversations with your students at home and tell them to speak with me if they are experiencing any issues.

Whitney Munroe

Assistant Principal of Middle School

From the Office: A reminder to parents and guardians, semester 1 School fees are now due. B pay details were included on the invoice, otherwise come into the office and see Jan, Charmaine or Chelsea and they can help you out.

CANTEEN NEWS

The Canteen at WSC is open on Tuesday and Friday (unless otherwise indicated). The VCAL Students do a wonderful job with organisation, preparation, presentation, sale of food/drinks and cleaning-up.

New Lunchtime Organisation – As from now, the Canteen will be open at the beginning of Lunch (from 12.45pm until 1.00pm) for students to collect PREORDERED LUNCHES (No other sales during this time). The Canteen will then be open from 1.00pm onwards, for all customers to purchase food/drinks.

Julie Pearson

Canteen Supervisor

[Like us on Facebook.](#)



We are up to 808 LIKES on the Warracknabeal Secondary College Facebook page. If you haven't already "liked" our page make, sure you do so you can get updates on what's happening around the school.

Warracknabeal Education Precinct

The dream of creating an Education Precinct in Warracknabeal, where the Primary School, Secondary College and the Special Developmental School are located close to each other and can share resources, is becoming closer to reality.

Additional land behind the Primary School was purchased a number of years ago and the 2016 State Budget allocated \$6 million towards planning and relocating the Secondary College and Special Developmental School to the Primary School site.

A three-stage plan has been developed and construction on Stage 1 will commence towards the end of this year. Stage 1 will involve building part of the Administration area, part of the Special Developmental School and part of the Secondary College. Stage 2 will see each of these areas completed. Stage 3 will conclude the process by building a new Primary School and removing the old buildings.

A Community Meeting will be held at the Primary School on Thursday 18th of May to explain the process and answer community questions. The projects architect and the three school Principals will be at the meeting to provide information and answer questions. Designs and documentation can be viewed from 5:00pm onwards and the Presentation by the architect will begin at 5:30pm. All school and community members are welcome to attend this meeting.



Community Meeting

The Warracknabeal Primary School, the Warracknabeal Secondary College & the Warracknabeal Special Developmental School would like to invite interested parties to a Community Meeting explaining the future development of an Education Precinct for Warracknabeal.

Thursday 18th May

Warracknabeal Primary School

Designs – 5:00

Presentation & Questions – 5:30pm

The Projects architect and the three Principals will present information and answer questions.

Game of Tiaras News

The cast had their first rehearsal in the Hall on Monday night. Starting off the rehearsal with some team building activities. We then broke into two groups and went through different scenes separately before re-joining to rehearse the final scene of the production together as a whole cast. We have a lot of work to do, however, the cast is working terrifically as a team. Cast members need to be working on learning their lines, family and friends could support cast members by offering to read lines with them.

The production team and myself would like to ***congratulate*** Chelsie King (Little Mermaid) on winning the **Production Poster competition**. Chelsie's design will be used to promote the production; it will be used on the tickets & production programs and also on the cast & crew T-Shirts. Well done Chelsie!

Cast members are reminded that they need to attend **every** rehearsal, even if their character role is not in the scene. It is important for cast members to watch the progression of the play.

As we enter colder months cast members are encouraged to bring warm clothes to rehearsals, as the Hall can be very chilly. We also have a short 10-15 minute break at 4:30pm and students can bring afternoon tea to eat then.

Week 6 is *Education Week*! On Monday 22nd of May from 3:30-4:00pm family and community members are invited to a **"sneak preview"** of the play. The cast of *Game of Tiaras* will perform a short scene from the play to promote the production and also support Education Week!

Costumes costumes costumes, the production team & cast would like to thank the

Warracknabeal Arts Council & Julie Pearson for the costumes they have already generously donated to the production. However we are still searching for specific costumes for our lead roles. *Cinderella*, *Snow White*, *Prince Charming*, *Belle*, *the Little Mermaid* and *Elsa (Frozen)* are just some costumes we will need to either buy or if possible have made. The production team is calling out to the community for help. If you are handy with a sewing machine and wouldn't mind dedicating some time to the production, we would like to have costumes made for our cast. I will be sourcing patterns for costumes this week. We will provide the materials needed for the costumes to be made. Alternatively, if you have one of the costumes listed (in sizes that would fit our teenage cast; eg not child size) the production would like to either hire or buy it from you.

We appreciate the community's continued support

Natalie Gordon

Game of Tiaras Director.



Types of costumes needed

The winning entry by Chelsie King

GAME OF TIARAS

7th & 8th September



Concession (Under 18s & Senior Citizens) \$7

Adults \$10

Family tickets (2 adults and 2 concession) \$25

Warracknabeal Secondary College

When you play the Game of Tiaras,
you win or you die.

Designed by Chelsie King

Careers Report

Gap Year in the Army, Navy and Air Force:

The Australian Defence Force Gap Year program provides an opportunity for young Australians who have finished Year 12 to experience military training and lifestyle whilst gaining new skills and pay over their Gap Year in the Army, Navy or Air Force. You will earn more than \$45,000, have subsidised accommodation and full medical and dental coverage. There are 13 roles available and applications are now open. For more information and to apply, go to <http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/gap-year/>

Work Experience

Year 10 students (not going on Melbourne Trip) and Year 11 students will have a week of work experience at the end of Term 2. Year 10 from Monday 19th June and Year 11 from Monday 26th June. It is not too early to start arranging these placements. Think outside the square and challenge yourself to a placement outside of Warracknabeal. Talk to your family/friends/relatives about where you can work for a week and get the ball rolling. It is an exciting time for you to begin to explore all the different careers out there, you never know, you might find your "dream career"!! If you need any help please see me in the Careers Office in the Library.

Preliminary Date – Wimmera Careers Expo

The 2017 Wimmera Careers Expo is being held once again in the last week of Term 2 on Tuesday 27th June at the Events Centre Longerenong. All Year 9, 10 & 12 students will be attending (Year 11 will be on Work Experience). Our Special Guest this year is AFL Womens player Moana Hope from the Collingwood Football Club. Further information to follow in future newsletters.

John Button School Prize - Applications close 26th June 2017

The Melbourne School of Government is proud to announce the John Button School Prize for 2017. The prize is \$2500 award for a Victorian student in Years 10-12 and under 19 years of age. A further \$2000 is given to the winning student's school.



**MELBOURNE
SCHOOL OF
GOVERNMENT**

The prize was created to encourage young Victorians to express their ideas about Australian politics and public policy. The subject might be Australia's population, climate change, reconciliation with Indigenous Australians, water, asylum seekers, education, health or the state of the Arts. These topics are just a guide; the choice of subject is up to the student writer. The judges want to see clear thinking, enlivened by a sense of passion about Australia's future. Please apply online through the Faculty of Arts web page. More details on the John Button School prize can be found at: <http://government.unimelb.edu.au/engagement/the-john-button-fund>

Nicole Stewart

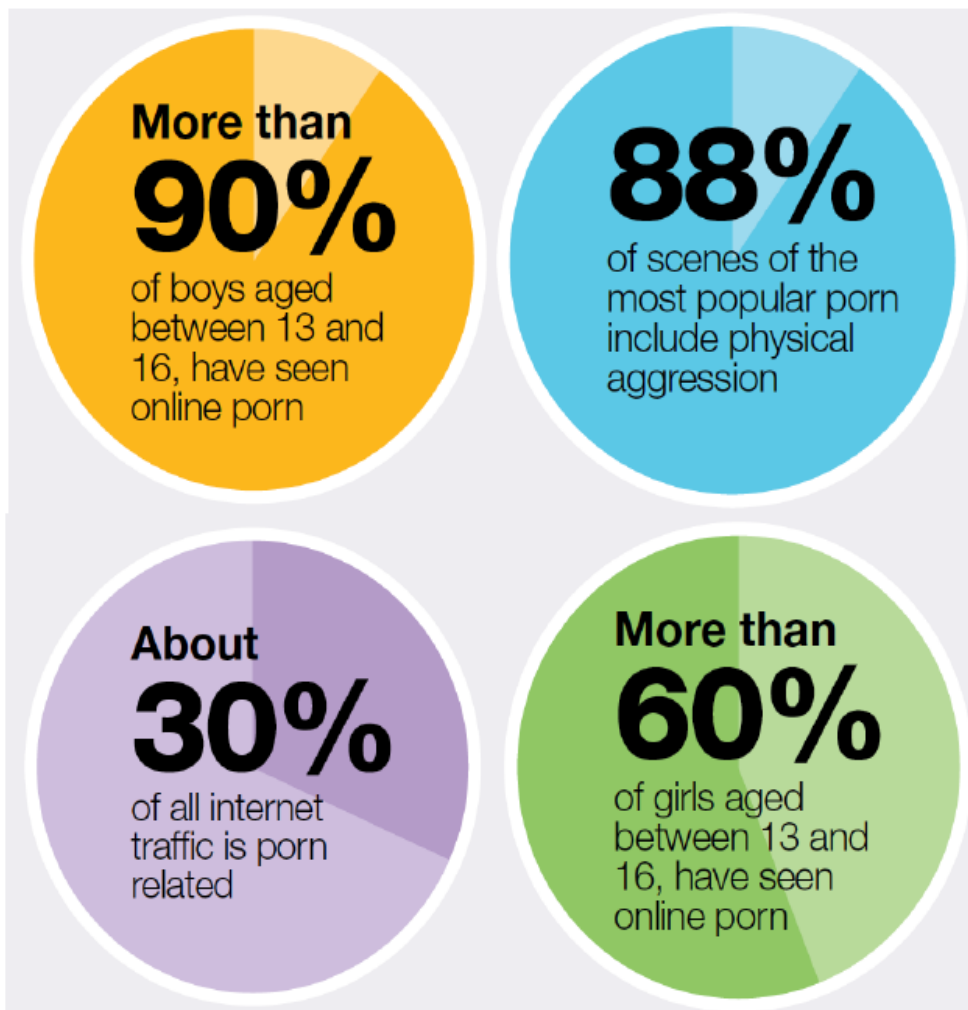
Careers/VET Co-ordinator
Structured Workplace Learning

Calendar of Events

May	12 th	Top Arts Yr. 10,11,12 - Melbourne School Photo's
	23 rd	
June	5-9 th	Yr. 10-11 Exams
	5 th	Charlton Drive School VCAL
	12 th	Queen's Birthday (No school)
	13-16 th	Yr. 12 Exams
	14 th	GAT
	19-23 rd	Yr. 10 Melbourne Trip
	19-23 rd	Yr. 10 Work Experience
	31 st	Last day Term 2



Community Events



Community Forum:

Let's Talk About Porn

SNACKS
PROVIDED

Monday 15th May

7pm to 8:30pm
Community Centre

**FREE
ENTRY!**

Led by **Maree Crabbe**, coordinator of the community education project *Reality and Risk: Pornography, young people and sexuality*.

Enquiries contact Warracknabeal Secondary College (03) 5398 1433

BreastScreen Victoria's Mobile Screening Service is coming to Warracknabeal

Appointments from
9 to 31 May

You'll find us at
Rural Northwest Health
Warracknabeal Campus
18 Dimboola Rd
Warracknabeal 3393



**Bookings
open
now**

Book at breastscreen.org.au or call **13 20 50**

A regular breast screen could save your life.

BreastScreen Victoria's Mobile Screening Service is:

quick • free • for women 50 and over • high quality digital screening
No doctor's referral required.

For more information about our visit
please contact Christie Long,
Communications Coordinator
clong@breastscreen.org.au



**BreastScreen
Victoria**

Caring about Women



For interpreter
assistance call
13 14 50

TTY 13 36 77

YARRILINKS

the planting weekend that brings people together

call for host families May 19, 20 & 21 2017

An opportunity to experience cultural diversity in your own home.

Yarrilinks invites city-based migrants and community members to mix and mingle at a tree planting day. We need people to host these visitors for the weekend.

What we ask our host families to do

- Pick up and deliver your volunteer at nearest pick up points during the weekend
- Provide supper for your volunteer on Friday night
- Provide a warm and comfortable bed for two nights
- Provide breakfast on Sunday morning and spend some time with your guests

If you can host or have any questions please contact:
Rae Talbot on 0429 868167 or email: talbotr@wcma.vic.gov.au